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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 543

Executive Board. (Legislative Journal pages 1740-1743.)

Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend with FA219. (Legislative Journal page 1730.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers, you are recognized to open.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is the last amendment that I have pending at this time. I'm going to tell you briefly what it does. It would wipe out the increase for all of these programs. SSAP would not get an increase. SAP would not get an increase. PEAP would not get an increase. It's clear to me that in this area the public schools are to be given short shrift. In order not to continue doing a bad thing, as is the case if we increase the money to this church school program, I think we should increase none of the programs. Let them all remain as they are. Earlier during the travail of the Legislature over these issues that I'm raising, some senators expressed misgivings about these kind of programs, period; certainly misgivings about the preacher programs. So let us invoke the Hippocratic principle to first do no harm. That means leave every thing the way that it is. Don't do something that will aggravate a bad situation. Giving this money to the preacher program is not good. In fact, it is a positive evil. If it's necessary to keep that evil from spreading, then I would say these other two programs should not get an increased appropriation either. All of what we're looking at through these amendments that I'm bringing in these increased appropriations is the worst in compromising. Is Senator Foley on the floor? Senator Foley is not here. I would like to ask Senator Wehrbein a question.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wehrbein, would you respond?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, Glen Campbell sang a song and part of it said, there has been a load of compromising. Was there compromising in the committee that resulted in each one of these programs being given an increased appropriation of